

Application No. 09/935,173

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICIAL

Applicant : Henry ISRAEL
Appl. No. : 09/935,173
Filed : 23 August 2001
Title : STENT ASSEMBLY
Group Art Unit: 3731
Examiner : Michael H. Thaler
Docket No. : 1093NES-US
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of June 29, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A stent assembly comprising:

an upstream portion adapted to modify a flow characteristic of embolic material disposed in a blood stream flowing through said upstream portion; and

a downstream portion in fluid communication with said upstream portion and adapted for the blood stream to flow therethrough, said downstream portion comprising an ~~asymmetric~~ a trapping region for with embolic material trapping ~~stored thereinsaid embolic material.~~

2. (original) The stent assembly according to claim 1, wherein said downstream portion extends from said upstream portion.

3. (currently amended) The stent assembly according to claim 1, wherein said downstream portion is separate and discontinuous ~~distanced~~ from said upstream portion.

4. (currently amended) ~~The stent assembly according to claim 1,~~

A stent assembly comprising:

an upstream portion adapted to modify a flow characteristic of embolic material disposed in a blood stream flowing through said upstream portion; and

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a downstream portion in fluid communication and contiguous with said upstream portion and adapted for the blood stream to flow therethrough, said downstream portion comprising a trapping region for trapping therein said embolic material;

wherein said upstream portion comprises a ~~cross-sectional area that varies along an axial portion of said stent assembly~~ downstream convergence that is asymmetric about a longitudinal axis of the upstream portion wherein the downstream convergence tapers towards the longitudinal axis on one side thereof and on an opposite side thereof does not taper;

and said trapping region comprises a divergent portion that is asymmetric about the longitudinal axis comprising a point at which the divergent portion tapers towards the longitudinal axis on one side thereof and on an opposite side thereof tapers away from the longitudinal axis.

5-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The stent assembly according to claim ~~1~~ 4, further comprising a restrictor element disposed in at least one of said upstream and downstream portions, said restrictor element being adapted to limit expansion of said at least one of said upstream and downstream portions.

15-21. (canceled)

22. (new) A stent assembly comprising:

an upstream portion adapted to modify a flow characteristic of embolic material disposed in a blood stream flowing through said upstream portion; and

a downstream portion in fluid communication with said upstream portion and adapted for the blood stream to flow therethrough, said downstream portion being separate and discontinuous from said upstream portion and comprising a trapping region for trapping therein said embolic material.

23. (new) The stent assembly according to claim 22, further comprising a restrictor element disposed in at least one of said upstream and downstream portions, said restrictor element being adapted to limit expansion of said at least one of said upstream and downstream portions.